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Truro Rural District Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT
For 1946

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Medical Officer of Health.

SOLOMON & METZ, PRINTERS.

Truro Rural District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT YEAR 1946

Public Health Officers. Medical Officer (part time), holds diploma of Public Health, is also District Medical Officer (Perranzabuloe District) and Public Vaccinator for Perranzabuloe and part of St. Allen Parishes.

Sanitary Inspector. Mr. E. R. C, Harvey, Associate Royal Sanitary Institute, whole time.

Additional Sanitary Inspector Mr. A. H. Bennett, M.S.I.A., whole time.

Additional Sanitary Inspector Mr. F. J. Harris.

Meat Inspector, Mr. G. T. Carter, is employed whole time at the Government Slaughterhouse.

The salaries of the first three officers are contributed to by the Ministry, under the Public Health Acts, or by Exchequer grants.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of Truro.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of your district for 1946.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

Area 106,504 acres. **Rateable value** £82,271 **value of 1d. Rate** £344.

Population :—

The estimated mid population for 1946 was 25,480. This is an increase of nearly 1,000 over 1945 and is in large part accounted for by returning service personnel.

The year was an exceptional one in so far that thousands of people who had not been able to get away for a proper holiday took full advantage of the summer and found their way to this district.

In spite of an unsettled summer the visitors found the quiet and beauty of the coast scenery and countryside just what was needed after the strain of war and derived great benefit from their holiday.

The children as a whole continue to look and keep very well and shew little sign of the strain of war, but the same cannot be said of many of the middle aged and older section of the population, who will always carry signs of the prolonged and terrible strain under which they have lived. Poorer children attending school shew a marked improvement in appearance and physique in many cases where they obtain a midday meal at the school canteen. During times when feeding is a difficult matter this midday meal of suitable food off the ration should lead to improved health and consequently of greater ability to learn of many of the really poor children.

The problem of the elderly and often infirm person becomes increasingly difficult both as regards their care and housing. Those that have seen the world during the war cannot settle readily or advantageously to live with the aged and infirm under often indifferent conditions. More bungalows, small and suitable for one or two elderly people suitably situated in their own neighbourhood would be eagerly welcomed.

Housing in the area is a very serious and pressing matter, overcrowding is being dealt with very satisfactorily by turning larger houses into flats and by converting buildings used by the forces into living accommodation. Results have been very satisfactory but many more new houses are very urgently needed.

Farming remains the chief occupation in the area apart from the seaside resorts, which cater for the summer visitors and are largely dependent on them for their living. Proper up to date conveniences water in adequate amount, drainage and scavenging become more important each year, both for seaside resorts and farm houses and cottages. Electricity is very widely needed among the farming community, it would help very greatly the farmer and his wife as well the farm labourer and make his home more attractive and easier to run. This section of the community at the moment deserves all the possible help and consideration in order to aid them in the tremendous task of growing extra food for the country.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live births :	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
Legitimate	399	206	193
Illegitimate	26	19	7
	—	—	—
Totals	425	225	200

Live Birth Rate :—16·7 per 1,000 of the population.

England and Wales 19·1

A slight rise is welcome in a low rate—male births predominate as is usual.

The presence of the Rosemundy Home in the area has to be remembered when considering the figures of illegitimate births.

Illegitimate Live Birth Rate 61 per 1,000 live births.

STILL BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	5	5	10
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
Totals	5	5	10

Still Birth Rate :—·51 per 1,000 of the population.

England and Wales '53

Deaths :—	MALE	FEMALE	MALE
	148	225	372

Crude Death Rate :—14·4 per 1,000 of the population

England and Wales 11·5

This apparently high figure is in large part due to the large proportion of old people resident in the area. The number of people living to great age being always very high.

It has as yet not been possible to work out a satisfactory means of adjusting this rate so that the returns from all areas in the country can be compared as was done before the war.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:—

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	8	6	14
Illegitimate	—	2	2

Infantile Mortality Rate 38 per 1,000 live births. A satisfactory figure even in this area.

This rate compares with 43 for the country as a whole and shows a rise from the year previous, which was 33.

The following death rates for certain diseases are worthy of comparison with those of the Country as a whole; being the rate per 1,000 of the population.

Typhoid Fever	·00	England and Wales	·00
Measles	·00	„	·00
Scarlet Fever	·00	„	·00
Whooping Cough	·00	„	·02
Diphtheria	·00	„	·01
Influenza	·31	„	·15
Diarrhoea, Infants	4·7	„	4·4
under 2 years.		per 1,000 live births	

The Freedom from deaths due to infectious disease apart from influenza is very satisfactory and as regards the rate for the latter one or two elderly people dying of this disease puts up the figure in a small population unduly. Allowance has to be made for this in assessing the death rate in comparison with that of the country as a whole as there is a large predominance of elderly people in the district.

It will be noted that 25% of deaths were due to heart disease and about one seventh due to cancer and one seventh due to diseases of the blood vessels.

Deaths due to tuberculosis shew a slight rise and from the age distribution have obviously resulted from war service and war work and conditions. Of the total 372 deaths only 148 were males that is 37 fewer than the year before and the females with a rise of 24 exceeded the males by 77, almost a fifth of the total deaths. This may in fact be attributable to the number of men killed in the 1914—1918 war many of whom would now have been of the older generation.

The figures for puerperal pyrexia and maternal mortality are Puerperal Pyrexia Notifications per 1,000 live and still births. 6·9 compared with 8·5 for England and Wales. Puerperal Infection and Post abortion sepsis deaths nil England Wales ·31 other maternal causes 4·6 compared with 1·1 for England and Wales as a whole. Here 1 case puts up the figure by double the rate for the country as a whole.

Detailed Analysis of Causes of Deaths.

CAUSES OF DEATH		MALES	FEMALES
ALL CAUSES		148	224
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers . .	—	—
2	Cerebrospinal Fever ...	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever ...	—	—
4	Whooping Cough ...	—	—
5	Diphtheria ...	—	—
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	7	2
7	Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...	2	3
8	Syphilitic Diseases ...	—	—
9	Influenza ...	1	7
10	Measles ...	—	—
11	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ...	—	—
12	Acute Inf. Encephalitis ...	—	—
13	Cancer of Mouth and Throat (male) and Uterus (female) ...	1	3
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	1	5
15	Cancer of Breast ..	—	9
16	Cancer of all other sites ...	17	16
17	Diabetes ...	—	—
18	Intracranial Vascular Lesions ...	17	31
19	Heart Disease ...	36	59
20	Other Disease of Circulation ...	2	8
21	Bronchitis ...	11	12
22	Pneumonia ...	2	6
23	Other Respiratory Diseases ...	3	3
24	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	2	1
25	Diarrhoea, under 2 years ...	—	2
26	Appendicitis ...	—	—
27	Other Digestive Diseases ...	4	4
28	Nephritis ...	7	7
29	Puerperal and Post Abortion Sepsis ...	—	—
30	Other Maternal Causes ...	—	2
31	Premature Birth ..	4	2
32	Congenital Malformation, Birth Injuries, etc. ...	4	2
33	Suicide ...	2	—
34	Road Traffic Accidents ...	5	—
35	Other Violent Causes ...	2	2
36	All other Causes ...	18	28

HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Nursing Arrangements. The District and parish nurses helped by Red Cross workers who have had the requisite training in hospital carry out the work of tending the sick. Additional assistance is available from the County Councils Emergency staff for cases of ophthalmia neonatorum and puerperal sepsis.

No special facilities otherwise for nursing infectious disease except for those cases removed to hospital.

Laboratory work. The greater part is now sent to Dr. F. D. M. Hocking's Laboratory, Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro.

Occasional use is made of the Clinical Research Association of Adelphi, London.

A free supply of diphtheria antitoxin is available for cases unable to afford it.

Alum precipitated toxoid provided by the Ministry of Health is issued to doctors for the immunisation of children up to 15 years of age as required.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

Adoptive Acts, Bye-Laws and Regulations relating to Public Health :—

Infectious Disease Prevention Act 1880, adopted 1899
Public Health Amendment Act 1890, adopted 1893
Public Health Amendment Act 1907, adopted 1913 as amended by the Public Health Act, 1926
Milk and Dairies Order, 1926

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

i. Fever. All cases of infectious disease, other than Smallpox, needing hospital treatment, are admitted to County Isolation Hospital, Truro.

ii. Tuberculosis. Tehidy Sanatorium near Camborne is available for the district; accommodation does not appear to be at all adequate.

Three beds are available at Didworthy Sanatorium for cases that live in Truro Rural District, however, little use is made of them as few will go so far from their homes.

A most serious defect is the absence of any special accommodation for advanced and highly infectious cases.

iii. Maternity. Wards are now available for special cases where home or other conditions necessitate hospital treatment, at the Women's Hospital Redruth.

There is now a Children's Ward with 10 beds in the Royal Cornwall Infirmary. This accommodation is inadequate.

Orthopædic cases are now treated at the Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro.

There are also 8 Ophthalmic beds in the Hospital.

The Royal Cornwall Infirmary is available for surgical and medical cases. Still more beds are needed.

Some patients from the western part of the district find their way to the Miner's and Women's Hospital, Redruth.

Chronic sick are taken into the Public Assistance Institution Redruth. This is outside the area and difficult for relatives to get at.

The same Institution also provides accommodation for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children.

The Rosemundy Home situated at St. Agnes and supported by voluntary effort is for unmarried mothers. There are 24 beds. Girls are kept there for 3 to 12 months and trained for domestic service with much success.

The Council does not support any of the hospitals.

The Bodmin Mental Hospital provides the accommodation for mental cases. Mentally deficient children are sent to the Elizabeth Barclay Home, Bodmin.

Puerperal Pyrexia. Where this is not due to an obvious infection connected with the actual birth, ordinary nursing facilities are made use of with additional help supplied from the Emergency Nursing Staff of the County Council.

There is limited accommodation available at the Royal Cornwall Infirmary for the really septic case.

X-Ray, ophthalmic and massage departments exist at the Royal Cornwall Infirmary. The cost and difficulty of travelling to and from the outlying districts prevents many patients from having proper treatment. Radium treatment is provided at Miners and Women's Hospital, Redruth.

Ambulance Facilities. i. That belonging to the Home Ambulance Service of the Order of St. John and British Red Cross Society, stationed at Truro, is available for non-infectious and accident cases. A limited part of the area make use of that at Redruth. St. Agnes now has its own ambulance.

ii. Infectious cases. Ambulances are now sent from the Isolation Hospital.

There are no treatment centres or clinics in the area run by the Council ; this work is carried out by the County Council, whose clinics are either in Truro or Redruth and Camborne.

Further hospital accommodation for surgical and medical cases is badly needed, also for children's diseases.

Beds should be available for old chronic and cancer cases preferably at not too great a distance from their homes and relatives.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLIES

(a) Perranzabuloe.

The supply to the inhabitants served by the Council's Mains has been satisfactorily maintained during the year, and at no time has any hardship through lack of water been experienced, except in the case of St. Georges Terrace, Perranporth.

Owing to frequent rainy periods it was not necessary to use the former Air Ministry Pumping Plant at Blowinghouse.

The emergency source at Mount Tunnel was brought into operation to augment the amount of water required to maintain a constant supply during the summer months.

The Pumping Plant has been maintained in a satisfactory condition and no trouble has been experienced owing to break down of same.

Samples, which are taken at least once a month, and submitted for Bacteriological Examination have shown by the Reports received that the water is of a very satisfactory Bacteriological purity.

The undermentioned are examples of the Reports received on samples submitted :—

(a) 15th April, 1946

Report No. 46/1862

Water: From Standpipe at Perranporth

Total No.	Organisms growing at 37 deg. C. in 24 hrs :—	3 per ml.
„	„ „ „ „ 48 hrs :—	4 per ml.
„	„ „ 22 deg. C. in 72 hrs :—	62 per ml.

IA.C. Group :— O organisms per 100 ml.

Typical B. coli :— O organisms per 100 ml.

C. Welchii :— Present in 50 ml.

The results are satisfactory.

(b) 14th October, 1946

Report No. 46/4709

Total No.	Organisms growing at 37 deg. C. in 24 hrs :—	6 per ml.
„	„ „ „ „ 48 hrs :—	18 per ml.
„	„ „ 22 deg. C. in 72 hrs :—	30 per ml.

I.A.C. Group :— Absent in 100 ml.

Typical B. coli :— Absent in 100 ml.

C. Welchii :— Absent in 100 ml.

The results are satisfactory

(b) **St. Agnes**

In this Parish a constant supply was maintained during the year. No complaints were received of any shortage to individual householders.

Owing to the amount of rain which fell during the year the emergency sources were only put into operation for a short time during the peak holiday period in August.

In this Parish, as in that of Perranzabuloe, the Council will soon have to consider relaying some of the older mains, which have done service for nearly fifty years, which are badly encrusted, and which are not now capable of delivering the amounts required by the growth of the area, and the more general use of water by householders, and also for agricultural requirements, especially in the production of "clean" milk.

Here again Samples are taken regularly and submitted to the Analyst for Bacteriological Reports. The following are two such Reports.

(a) 12th April, 1946

Report No. 46/1863

Water : Taken from Vicarage Rd., St. Agnes (Main supply)

Total No. organisms growing at 37 deg. C. in 24 hrs :— 1 per ml.
" " " " 48 hrs :— 2 per ml.
" " " 22 deg. C. in 72 hrs :—112 per ml.
I.A.C. Group. O. per 100 ml.
Typical B. coli. O. per 100 ml.
C. Welchii absent in 100 ml.

Satisfactory.

(b) 24th October, 1947

Report No. 46/4952

Water : (No. 2) Private Tap, Horlingburrows Farm, Coonbell

Total No. Organisms growing at 37 deg. C. in 24 hrs :— 3 per ml.
" " " " 41 hrs :—26 per ml.
" " " 22 deg. C. in 72 hrs :—80 per ml.
I.A. C. Group :— 1 per 100 ml.
Typical B. coli :— 0 per 100 ml.
C. Welchii :— Absent in 100 ml.

The results are satisfactory.

The Pumping Plant has been maintained in a very satisfactory state of repair during the year.

(c) **St. Mawes.**

The supply has been uninterrupted during the year and with the exception of some houses on the hill near Newton which has on occasions been short at week-ends, no serious complaints have been received.

The emergency source at Trethem, as in the previous year, was brought into operation for a shorter period than in the years when Service personnel were in the district.

At the Priory source trouble was experienced owing to the roof of the tunnel collapsing, this however had little or no effect on the supply as the yield from this source is practically negligible.

Here again regular samples are taken and submitted for Bacteriological Report. The undermentioned are typical Reports.

(a) 26th February, 1946

Report No. 46/1080

Water : St. Mawes Water Supply (Well).

Total No. Organisms growing at 37 deg. C. in 24 hrs :— 2 per ml.
" " " " 48 hrs :— 24 per ml.
" " " " 22 deg. C. in 72 hrs :— 84 per ml.

I.A.C. Group :—	Absent in 100 ml.
Typical B. coli :—	Absent in 100 ml.
C. Welchii :—	Present in 50 ccs.

The results are satisfactory.

(b) 24th October, 1947

Report No. 46/4950

Water : Lloyd's Standpipe, St. Mawes

Total No. Organisms growing at 37 deg. C. in 24 hrs :— 10 per ml.
" " " " 48 hrs :— 536 per ml.
" " " " 22 deg. C. in 72 hrs :— 620 per ml.

I.A.C. Group :—	1 per 100 ml.
Typical B. coli :—	0 per 100 ml.
C. Welchii :—	Absent in 100 ml.

The results are satisfactory.

(d) Mylor.

At Flushing where there is a piped supply the usual "turning off" took place, but for a shorter period than in previous years. Nevertheless houses on the hill St. Peters Terrace and Tregew were without water for long periods.

With the spread of houses on the hill outside Flushing village the only satisfactory way to meet the need of such house-holders will be to link up with the Falmouth Corporations mains at Penryn and purchase the water in "bulk" and distribute it through the main laid by the War Office to Mylor Clump, which Main the Council has now acquired.

(e) Devoran.

This privately owned undertaking has given rise to numerous complaints of the inadequacy of the supply, particularly in the summer months.

It is difficult to see how the owners can possibly augment the supply from fresh sources.

Water Survey.

The Ministry Report on the review of water supply in the County of Cornwall was received during the year. Many Conferences have taken place but little if anything has been accomplished in implementing the Report.

Chlorination of Water Supplies.

The supply at St. Agnes, Perranzabuloe and St. Mawes is chlorinated.

Schemes for Water Supply.

Some progress has been made by the Council's Consultant—Mr. Osmand, in formulating schemes for the supply of water to Chacewater and district, Newlyn East, a comprehensive scheme for the supply to Ladock, Grampound Road, Probus, Tregoney, Veryan, Gerrans and Portscatho, from a source at Ladock Quarry.

As has been noted on many previous occasions the needs of these villages for an adequate piped supply of good water is very great. In some of the scattered districts near them water is almost unobtainable owing to the old mine workings and there is considerable hardship in either having to pay to have water carted or to fetch it. Old people even where there are pumps in the village are often too far away from them to get it, and again have to pay to have what should be available to them within their own home.

Supplies for many farms are entirely inadequate for modern needs. It is to be hoped that some of the schemes mentioned may very soon take practical form.

Extensions of Water Mains.

No extensions of mains have been carried out during the year.

Water Supplies in Schools.

No improvement in the supply of water to Schools has taken place during the year, excepting that of Kea-Primary School, which has been connected to the Playing Place, main.

Sewers and Sewage Disposal.

No extension of sewers has been undertaken excepting some short lengths at Perranporth in the development of building estates.

At Perranporth, which is the only place in the Council's area where the Sewage is pumped, the Plant has been maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Collection of House Refuse.

This service has been fully maintained during the year. The Larger villages having a weekly collection whilst the smaller villages and hamlets have a fortnightly collection.

Conservancy.

The Council are emptying the closet pails of some 80 houses in Flushing which are so situate that there are inadequate gardens in which to dispose of the contents.

Emptying of Cesspits.

The Council has arranged with a neighbouring Local Authority to have the use of their Cesspool Emptier for dealing with Cesspits in their area.

Quite a number of householders have availed themselves of this service, which is carried out at a flat rate of 25/- per pit, irrespective of distance from Truro.

Housing.

(a) During the year the Council and its Housing Committee have spent long hours in formulating the first instalment of new houses to be erected in its area.

The choice of sites, and often endless negotiation in the final acquisition of same has not deterred them from going ahead and it is with a very justifiable sense of pride in their achieve-

ment that there were erected at the end of the year 23 permanent houses. An achievement not equalled by any other Authority in the West of England—Urban or Rural.

Private enterprise completed 14 houses at the end of the year.

Work in various stages, is proceeding apace on a number of sites.

(b) Number of Houses inspected :—

(i) Under Housing Acts	86
(ii) Under Public Health Acts	94
(iii) Under Requisition Notices	329

(c) **Rural Housing Survey.**

In continuation of the Survey of Houses in the area of a Rateable Value of £16 and under the undermentioned Table will give some idea of the general classification of cottage property in the older and purely rural parts of the district.

PARISH	CATEGORIES					TOTAL
	1	2	3	4	5	
St. Agnes	16	26	34	221	68	365
St. Allen	1	14	19	60	11	105
Chacewater	9	4	104	196	145	458
Cubert	48	2	27	69	6	152
Cuby	—	7	7	7	1	22
St. Erme	2	20	7	52	15	96
Feock	—	2	10	2	—	14
Gwennap	—	—	—	1	1	2
St. Just-in-Roseland	—	—	—	—	2	2
Kea	—	—	—	5	4	9
Kenwyn	23	42	13	93	14	185
Ladock	—	25	35	72	30	162
Newlyn East	21	55	96	163	15	350
Perranzabuloe	46	39	58	256	48	447
Probus	—	1	5	5	2	13
Tregoney	5	—	17	93	39	154
Veryan	—	—	—	5	—	5
	171	237	432	1300	401	2541

The deterioration of old property is increasing at such a rate that replacement by new houses is not keeping pace with it. The amount being spent on repairs is again not sufficient to prevent houses falling into further disrepair and rendering them liable to be unfit for habitation, this applies to the old cob houses in particular and becomes a very serious matter.

Salvage

The collection of waste Paper, Bones and Textiles shows a decrease in the amounts collected in comparison with the previous year 48 tons were sold for £346.

Rodent Control.

The Council accepted Ministry of Food Circular N.S.12 and began a systematic survey and treatment, intended eventually, to cover the whole of the Rural District.

A whole-time operator has been appointed.

Food

The Government Slaughterhouse at Chacewater which deals with the meat supply for the Rural area as well as that for the City of Truro has been conducted in such a manner that no complaints of nuisances have been received.

Mr. Carter, the Council's Meat Inspector reports.

Summaries of Meat Condemned at Chacewater Slaughterhouse during the year 1946.

Animals inspected :—

Cattle 2130, Steers 825, Heifers 421; Cow Heifers 146, Cows 666, Bulls 72, Sheep 7057, Calves 1373, Pork Pigs 82, Sows 22, Boars 4.

Carcases Condemned :—

Heifers 19, Cows 120, Bulls 4, Steers 22. = 165. = 93,004 lbs.
Calves 15, Lambs 35, Sheep 43, Pork Pigs 13, Sows 5.

Principal reasons for condemnation, Bovine, :—

Cows :—T.B. 60, Pyaemia 2, Oedema 17, Sep. Mastitis 7, Fevers 9, Malig. Catarrh 2, Anaemia 2, Sep. Mamitis 3, Pneumonia 4, Gangrene 4, Enteritis 5, Prolapsus 2, Johnes Dis. 1, Hydraemia 1, Hyperaemia 1.

Heifers :—Oedema 3, Gangrene 1, T.B. 8, Sept. Metritis 1, Part Fever 2, Pneumonia Gang. 2, Sept Mamitis 1, Fever Emac. 1.

Steers :—Gen. Actin. 3, T.B. 10, Anaemia 1, Septic 4, Pyaemia 1, Pneumonia 2, Oedema 1.

Bulls :—Gangrene 1, Oedema 1, T.B. 1, Septic 1.

Organs etc. :—

Livers 910, Part Livers 422, Hearts & Lungs 452, Lungs 96, Heads and Tongues 333, Skirts 196, Tripes 195, Kidneys 171, Mesenteries 182, Mefts 173.

Sheep Plucks 100, Sheep Livers 615, Pigs Heads 5, Pig Plucks 25.

Bone Taint, Broken Legs etc. 1544 lbs.

Corned Beef 1375 lbs., Corned mutton 186 lbs. Corned Pork 18 lbs.

Total Weight Condemned :—149,023 lbs.=66·5 Tons.

In addition to the foregoing the following Foods not dealt with at the Slaughterhouse, were condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

1 Pig, 7 doz. Eggs, 5 Stones Fish, 46 Tins Meat and 23 Tins of Fruit and Preserves.

Infectious Disease.

A year of exceptional freedom from all types of trouble possibly excepting a small amount of Influenza.

Scarlet Fever :—A few mild cases among school children—only in exceptional cases where isolation was not possible or there was a milk supply being endangered were they removed to hospital.

Whooping Cough. A few cases of a mild type were notified many similar cases went unrecognised. There were no deaths.

Pneumonia. A larger number of cases than might have been expected except for the influenza outbreak. Deaths attributable were 8.

Diphtheria. One case only and that a boy of 14 occurred among children up to 15 years. One of the other cases a middle aged woman developed the disease the day after she entered the district.

Immunisation is carried out by the family doctor at the Council's expense at his surgery or the Welfare Centre with Alum precipitated toxoid provided by the Ministry of Health. It is important to remember that the older children protected in 1940 and 1941 should have a reinforcing or "booster" dose, and at 5 all children done about 1 year of age should have a similar one on starting school life.

The following table gives a brief review of the immunisation of children carried out during 1946 and previously.

Immunisation in relation to child population.

Age at 31/12/46	Under 1 yr.	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total
Born in year	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1937	1932	under
						1941	1936	15
Number Immunised	5	156	257	173	92	1,050	1,390	3,123
Estimated mid year population 1946		1,810				3,380		5,200

No cases of dysentery were notified, and the same applies to typhoid and paratyphoid fever, scabies and Impetigo. Some cases still cropped up but not so many families were found to be all involved. Use was made of the special hostel where lack of a bath and water in the home made proper treatment impossible.

Impetigo was much less prevalent.

The number of visits paid in connection with infectious and contagious disease was 50.

The accompanying tables set out the sex and age distributions of the cases notified and except for a large preponderance of female cases of scarlet and of male cases of Pulmonary tuberculous the sexes are very evenly affected.

Cancer. Radium is used at Redruth hospital for the treatment of suitable cases of this disease. But it is obvious that as has already been so often stated, early treatment by whatever means is most important in dealing with this disease. It is often of palliative value.

No use has been made of the Schick or Dick tests during the year

No vaccinations have been done under the 1917 Public Health Regulations.

Infectious Diseases

Notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1946

Age Group	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles		Diphtheria		Acute Poliomyelitis	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
1-3	—	—	6	5	2	1	—	—	—	—
3-5	—	—	6	6	—	1	—	—	—	—
5-10	3	7	9	7	3	3	—	—	—	—
10-15	1	6	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
15-25	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
25 & over	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Age unknown	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	4	16	22	20	9	6	1	2	—	—

Age Group	Pneumonia		Dysentery		Paratyphoid Fever		Erysipelas	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-5	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-45	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	1
45-65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	1	3	—	—	—	—	1	1
Age Unknown	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	13	14	—	—	—	—	1	2

Puerperal Pyrexia 5 cases. Cerebrospinal Meningitis 1 case a boy under 5 years of age.

Tuberculosis

New cases and Mortality in 1946

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
20—25	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
25—35	6	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
35—45	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—55	1	—	—	—	3	1	1	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
over 65	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	8	3	1	1	7	2	2	3

The number of cases notified shows a welcome drop almost equal for both sexes. A very large proportion of male cases are men between 25 and 35 years of age who have been in the forces or on war work.

Deaths again shew a considerable proportion of males, almost two to one which reversed the previous years figures when the female deaths were slightly in excess.

Lack of sanatorium accommodation is still very serious and causes long delay in cases being admitted and must necessarily influence the length of stay once they are there.

The problem of the care of the advanced and chronic cases is a very pressing one.

The improved allowances given to the unfortunate worker has helped to lessen his mental anxiety and the need for returning to work too soon and so undoing much of the good that had been done.

70% of cases were notified before death. Many of the cases now notified are early ones and with adequate treatment and the better understanding of the needs of their condition should make complete recovery.

A. RADBURNE FULLER.